Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OGEN

SUBJECT:OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. WE HEARD ON JULY 19 THAT FMC CHAIRMAN BAKKE SIGNED AN "AGREEMENT" LAST WEEK IN LENINGRAD WITH THE SOVIET MINISTRY OF MERCHANT MARINE WHICH COMMITS BOTH SIDES TO USE THE GOOD OFFICES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE AGENCIES TO ACHIEVE VARIOUS OBJECTIVES RELATING TO OCEAN CARGO RATES. ONE IS TO HAVE SOVIET CARRIERS MAINTAIN THEIR RATES AT A LEVEL NOT LOWER THAN THE LOWEST RATE USED BY NON-SOVIET CARRIERS. ANOTHER IS TO HAVE SOVIET CARRIERS JOIN LINER CONFERENCES. BAKKE TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE AGREEMENT CLIMAXED A WEEK OF INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE USSR, AND PLAYED IT UP AS A GREAT PERSONAL TRIUMPH. THIS "AGREEMENT" (WHICH DOES NOT REALLY HAVE THE STATUS OF A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREE-MENT, AS THE FMC IS A REGULATORY BOARD AND NOT A GOVERNMENT AGENCY) TOOK STATE AND MARAD COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE FMC DELIBERATELY TRIED TO KEEP STATE OUT OF THE PICTURE. THE PEOPLE IN EB ARE CONCERNED THAT WE RECEIVED NO ADVANCE WORD FROM THE EMBASSY. WE POINTED OUT CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT IT WAS SIGNED IN LENINGRAD, AND BAKKE MAY HAVE CIR-

CUMVENTED THE EMBASSY. DID YOU HAVE ANY INKLING THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT WAS BEING NEGOTIATED?

- 2. YOUR 11043, PARA 3: VO DOES NOT THINK IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO REINTERVIEW GOULETSOS, BUT YOU CAN GO AHEAD WITH A WAIVER OF SANCTIONS REQUEST FROM VIENNA AND NAME CHECKS FROM ATHENS. WE HAVE VO TO LET US KNOW AS SOON AS THEY GET YOUR ADVISORY OPINION SHOULD THEY GET IT BEFORE WE DO.
- 3. APPRECIATED YOUR RUNDOWN ON THE ZA RUBEZHOM REQUESTS IN THIS CHANNEL. HOPE YOU WILL WHEN POSSIBLE USE REGULAR CHANNEL FOR SUCH ITEMS. NO PROBLEM IN THIS CASE SINCE WE HAD SIMILAR INFO FROM USNATO.
- 4. RE YOUR 9805: WE WILL BE REVIEWING YOUR PROPOSALS WITH ARCHITECT ON GORKY PROPERTY TOMORROW, HOWEVER WE ARE STRONGLY INCLINED TO STAY WITH DECISION NOT TO USE FIRST FLOOR FOR CGR. RATIONALE FOR SELECTING SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS BASED ON FACT FIRST FLOOR STAIRWAY WOULD PRE-VENT A FREE-FLOWING REPRESENTATIONAL AREA IF WE TOOK THAT FLOOR. FURTHERMORE, THERE IS ONLY 269 SQUARE METERS OF USABLE SPACE ON FIRST FLOOR AS OPPOSED TO 360 SQUARE METERS ON SECOND FLOOR. WE DO NOT BELIEVE SEPARATE ENTRANCE IS NECESSARY OR PRACTICAL. WE DID NOT THINK COURTYARD ENTRANCE WAS PRACTICAL BUT WANTED ROBIN TO HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE IT. ON STRELETSKAYA, IF WE CAN GET THE ENTIRE PIECE OF PROPERTY WHERE BUILDING IS TO BE TORN DOWN, WE WILL MOST LIKELY BE ABLE TO BEND ON THE SPACE IN THE BACK OF THE BUILDING. ARCHITECT WILL HAVE TO REVIEW THE DRAWINGS AND NOTES YOU ARE FORWARDING BEFORE WE CAN GET YOU AN ANSWER ON FLORENTSIYA. WE HAVE CHECKED OUT INFORMALLY THE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING ARCHITECT OUT PER YOUR SUGGESTION, BUT THAT DOES NOT LOOK TOO PROMISING AT THIS POINT. KISSINGER

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